

DETAILED ACTION

Remarks

1. The response received on 15 April 2010 has been placed in the file and was considered by the examiner. An action on the merits follows.

Applicant has amended claims 7, 11 and 15-17. Claim 18 has been added.

Claims 7-8, 11 and 15-18 are pending.

The Examiner withdraws all rejections from the Office Action dated 11/17/2009.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 7-8, 11 and 15-18 (renumbered as claims 1-7) are allowed.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claims 7-8, 11 and 15-18 (renumbered as claims 1-7), in addition to other limitations in the claims the Prior Art of Record fails to teach, disclose or render obvious the applicant's invention as claimed, in particular the limitation "obtaining a polynomial expression defining the feature data as a function of the obtained ratio of pupil diameter to iris diameter based on a plurality of pieces of feature data and ratios of pupil diameter to iris diameter obtained from the plurality of captured iris images, wherein a degree of the polynomial expression is greater than or equal to 2."

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to GANDHI THIRUGNANAM whose telephone number is (571)270-3261. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th, 7:30am to 6pm, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh M. Mehta can be reached on 571-272-7453. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Gandhi Thirugnanam/
Examiner, Art Unit 2624

/Wenpeng Chen/
Primary Examiner, AU 2624

